

Appl. No. 10/788,689
Amdt. dated Nov. 21, 2005
Reply to Office Action of Oct. 05, 2005

REMARKS

By the above amendments, applicant has amended claims 1, 5, 7, 12 and 13. Claims 1, 4-5, 7-13 remain pending in the application.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 103

Claims 1, 4-5, 7-10 and 12-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being anticipated by Hiraishi et al. (US2003/0156238) in view of JP 11014826 ('826).

In response to the rejection of claim 1, applicant has amended the claim. Asserts that amended claim 1 is patentable, as follows:

Amended claim 1 recites in part:

A light guide assembly comprising:···the masking film is provided on the light emitting surface for blocking UV rays from penetrating therethrough, and the masking film is made of SiO₂.

Applicant submits that none of Hiraishi et al., '826, and a combination of Hirashi et al. and '826 discloses, teaches, or otherwise suggests the invention as recited in amended claim 1.

Applicant acknowledges that Hiraishi et al. does disclose a light guide assembly including a light guide plate, the light guide plate having a light incidence surface, a light emitting surface, and a film provided on the light

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emitting surface and blocking UV rays. **'826 discloses a masking film for blocking UV radiation, made of the combination of SiO₂ and TiO₂.** The combination of Hiraishi et al. and '826 does not disclose or suggest the limitation whereby **"the masking film is made of SiO₂"** as recited in claim 1. That is, the combination does not disclose or suggest a light guide plate having a masking film made of SiO₂. Accordingly, the combination fails to teach or suggest the light guide plate as recited in claim 1. Furthermore, the light guide plate as recited in claim 1 produces new and unexpected results. That is, UV rays from the external environment are blocked by the masking film formed on the light emitting surface of the light guide plate, and discoloration of the light guide plate induced by external UV light can be eliminated. Thus, the display performance of the liquid crystal display assembly is preserved and maintained.

Accordingly, amended claim 1 is submitted to be unobvious and patentable over Hiraishi in view of '826 under s.103. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection and allowance of amended claim 1 are respectfully requested.

Claim 4 directly depends from amended claim 1. Therefore claim 4 should also be allowable.

For reasons similar to those asserted above in relation to amended claim 1, applicant submits that amended claim 5 should also be allowable.

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For reasons similar to those asserted above in relation to amended claim 1, applicant submits that amended claim 7 should also be allowable.

Claims 8-10 and 12-13 directly and indirectly depend from amended claim 7. Therefore claims 8-10 and 12-13 should also be allowable.

Claim 11 is stated to be rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hiraishi et al. (US 2003/0156238).

In response to this rejection, applicant traverses as follows:

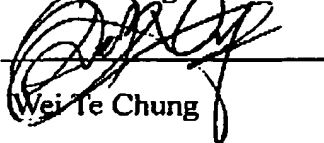
Claim 11 depends indirectly from amended claim 7. As detailed above, claim 7 is asserted to be unobvious over Hiraishi et al. in view of '826 under s.103. Therefore claim 11 should also be allowable.

In view of the foregoing, the present application as claimed in the pending claims is considered to be in a condition for allowance, and an action to such effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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